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WITHNELL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH'S

REPORT 1958

To the Chairman and Members of the
WITHNELL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report of the Health and Sanitary Circumstances of the Urban District of Withnell for the year ending 31st December, 1958.

The live births registered in your district for the year were 33, five less than the previous year and nine less than in 1956. The adjusted birth rate is 13.1 compared with 15.0 in 1957 and 16.7 in 1956.

There were again no deaths of infants under one year nor any maternal deaths.

The deaths in the district were 42, an increase of seven on last year and an increase of ten on 1956. Disease of the heart and circulation accounted for 27 of these deaths, an increase of 3 on last years figures.

In the field on infectious diseases there were no epidemics of notifiable diseases in the year. Tuberculosis was much less prevalent, only one notification and no deaths in the year. Vaccination against poliomyelitis proceeded energetically throughout the year and there were no notifications of this disease.

A further 17 pail closets were converted to fresh water closets in the year, making a total of 29 in two year. This is very gratifying progress.

The water supply was pure throughout the year. 14 bacteriological samples all being satisfactory.


A special event during the year was the visit of the Mass Radiography Survey in February, 1958. There was a good response from the public, 889 people being xrayed, in 12 of whom an abnormality was discovered.

Other matters regarding the Sanitary Circumstances are dealt with in the report.

In conclusion I wish to express my sincere thanks to the Chairman and members for the kind consideration given to Dr. Doherty and myself at all times.

My thanks are also due to Mr. Barratt, Clerk of the Council for part of the year, to Mr. Ryan his successor and Mr. Hall Surveyor and Health Inspector for their willing co-operation during the year.

J. WALKER.



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STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

SECTION A,

The area of the district is 4.190 acres. The population figure at the 1931 Census was 3,040. For 1958 the Registrar General calculated the population as 2,790.

The rateable value was 21,941 and a penny rate produced £85.

The chief industries are Paper Making, Quarrying Saw Mills and Cotton Mills. There has been no change in social conditions.

VITAL STATISTICS.

<u>BIRTHS</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total.</u>
1. <u>LIVE BIRTHS</u>			
Legitimate	16	14	30
Illegitimate	3	NIL	3
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population			
Crude	11.8		
Adjusted	13.1 (England & Wales 16.4).		
2. <u>STILL BIRTHS.</u>			
Legitimate	NIL	1	1
Illegitimate	NIL	NIL	NIL
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Live & still births	29.4 (England & Wales 21.6)		
Total Live & Still Births			34.
3. <u>INFANT DEATHS</u>			
Legitimate	NIL	NIL	NIL
Illegitimate	NIL	NIL	NIL
4. <u>INFANT MORTALITY RATE</u> <u>PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS</u>			
Total		NIL (England & Wales 22.5)	
Legitimate		NIL	
Illegitimate		NIL	
5. <u>NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE</u> Per 1,000 live births.			
Total		NIL (England & Wales 16.2)	
Legitimate		NIL	
Illegitimate		NIL	
6. <u>ILLEGITIMATE LIVE BIRTHS PER CENT</u> <u>OF TOTAL LIVE BIRTHS.</u>		9.09%	
7. <u>MATERNAL DEATHS</u> (including abortion)		NIL	
8. <u>MATERNAL MORTALITY RATE PER</u> <u>1,000 LIVE AND STILL BIRTHS.</u>		NIL (England & Wales 0.43)	

<u>DEATHS</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
1. <u>ALL CAUSES</u>	25	17	42
Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population Crude 15.1 Adjusted 15.5			
2. <u>RESPIRATORY T.B.</u>	NIL	NIL	NIL
Rate per 1,000 estimated population NIL			
3. <u>MALIGNANT NEOPLASMS</u>	1	3	4
Rate per 1,000 estimated population 1.43			

COMPARABILITY FACTORS

BIRTHS 1.11
DEATHS 1.03

COMPARATIVE TABLE OF VITAL STATISTICS
CRUDE RATE

YEAR	Live Births		Deaths all causes		Still - births		Maternal Mortality		Infant Total under 1 year		Mortality Neo-Natal under 4 weeks	
	No. Registered	Rate per 1,000 population	No. Registered	Rate per 1,000 population	No. Registered	Rate per 1,000 total deaths	No. Registered	Rate per 1,000 total Births	No. Registered	Rate per 1,000 Live Births	No. Registered	Rate per 1,000 Live Births
1958	33	13.1	42	15.5	1	29.4	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
1957	38	13.5	41	14.6	2	50	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
1956	42	14.9	32	11.3	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
1955	41	14.5	56	19.5	2	47	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
1954	37	13.0	32	11.3	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
1953	32	11.3	34	12.1	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	1	31	NIL	NIL
1952	44	15.6	35	12.4	1	22	NIL	NIL	1	25	NIL	NIL

ADJUSTED Live Birth Rate (comparability factor 1.11) 13.1 per 1,000 est. popn.
ADJUSTED Death Rate (comparability factor 1.03) 15.5 per 1,000 est. popn.

ENGLAND & WALES.

LIVE BIRTH RATE 16.4 per 1,000 home population.
DEATH RATE 11.7 per 1,000 home population.

ANALYSIS OF CAUSE OF DEATH.

CAUSE	Male	Female	Total
3. SYPHILITIC DISEASE	-	1	1
10. MALIGNANT NEOPLASM, STOMACH	-	1	1
13. MALIGNANT NEOPLASM, UTERUS	-	1	1
14. OTHER MALIGNANT AND LYMPHATIC NEOPLASMS	1	1	2
17. VASCULAR LESIONS OF NERVOUS SYSTEM	4	3	7
18. CORONARY DISEASE, ANGINA	7	1	8
20. OTHER HEART DISEASE	7	4	11
21. OTHER CIRCULATORY DISEASE	-	1	1
24. BRONCHITIS	2	-	2
28. NEPHRITIS AND NEPHROSIS	1	-	1
31. CONGENITAL MALFORMATIONS	1	-	1
32. OTHER DEFINED AND ILL-DEFINED DISEASES	1	3	4
34. ALL OTHER ACCIDENTS	1	1	2
All Causes	25	17	42

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

Medical Officer of Health - J. Walker, M.B., C.H.B., L.D.S., D.P.H., D.P.D.

55, Victoria Road, Fulwood, Lancs.

Tel. PRESTON 77263.

Other Public Appointments.

M.O.H.	Chorley Borough.
M.O.H.	Leyland U.D.C.
M.O.H.	Longridge U.D.C.
M.O.H.	Preston R.D.C.

HEALTH INSPECTOR

Reginald Barker Hall

A Part Time Officer holding the appointment of Surveyor;

No other Public Health Officer held office during 1958.

LABORATORY SERVICES.

The Public Health Laboratory, Preston is available for the examination of specimens for the diagnosis of cases of infectious disease and for pathological specimens for ordinary disease.

Similar use of this laboratory is made for the bacteriological examination of samples of milk, water and ice cream etc.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

Provided by the Lancashire County Council Ambulance Service (Chorley Depot) - Telephone 2744.

NURSING IN THE HOME

There is one District Nurse practising in the area. She may be consulted via the Divisional Office, Preston 77263.

TREATMENT CLINIC FOR SCHOOLCHILDREN.

The 'Minor Ailment' Clinic is held at 20, St. Thomas's Road, Chorley, each Monday at 10.30 a.m.

Ancillary School Clinics (Orthopaedic, Dental and Eye etc) are held at Chorley and attended by Practitioners of Specialist Status. Attendance by appointment via School Medical Staff.

CHEST CLINIC.

The Chest Clinic is at 34, St. Thomas's Road, Chorley. The Chest Physician attends each Tuesday at 10 a.m. This Clinic is a consultant Clinic for all Chest Conditions.

VENEREAL DISEASE CLINICS.

Held at Chorley and District Hospital, Wigan Infirmary and Bolton Infirmary.

HOSPITAL FACILITIES.

For non-infectious cases - Chorley and District Hospital, Preston Infirmary, Blackburn Infirmary, and Sharoe Green.

For Infectious Cases - Isolation Hospital, Heath Charnock.

Smallpox - Smallpox Hospital, Ainsworth, Nr. Bury.

Tuberculosis - Sanatorium (50 Beds at Isolation Hospital, Heath Charnock).

All administered by Manchester Regional Hospital Board.

COUNTY HEALTH AND WELFARE SERVICES.

These Services are administered by the Lancashire County Council.

Domiciliary Facilities.

There is one District Nurse, Midwife practising in this area. She can be consulted via the Divisional Office, Preston 77263.

Ante Natal Clinics & Post Natal Clinics.

These Clinics are held on Fridays (at 10 am.) at 2-4, St. Thomas's Road, Chorley. They are attended by a consultant obstetrician. No appointment is needed for the first visit.

Maternity Beds.

The available accommodation at Chorley is as follows:-

- Chorley and District Hospital
- Eaves Lane Hospital, Chorley.

Child Welfare.

A Child Welfare Clinic is held fortnightly (Tuesdays 2-4 pm.) at the Withnell Conservatives Club, and is attended fortnightly by a Medical Officer (Dr. Beirne) of the Lancashire County Council as well as the County Health Visitor. Ministry of Health Welfare Foods and other propriety baby foods may be obtained at this clinic.

Health Visitors.

The County's Health Visitor for the area is Nurse Lamb who is available to give advice on all the County Health and Welfare Services. She may be consulted through the Divisional Officer, 55, Victoria Road, Fulwood, Preston. (Telephone 77263).

Home Helps.

A Home Help Service in cases of Sickness, Maternity and Old Age is available in the area. Application for Home Helps should be made to the Divisional Health Officer, 55, Victoria Road, Fulwood, Preston (Telephone Preston 77263).

Poliomyelitis Vaccination.

Vaccination against Poliomyelitis is given at 2-4, St. Thomas's Road, Chorley each Monday from 2 - 4 p.m. and each Wednesday from 7 - 8 p.m.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The number of persons on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of the year was

Types of Tuberculosis.	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953
Respiratory	15	15	15	16	16	16
Non Respiratory	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	2	5

New Cases and Mortality 1958.

Age	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non Respiratory		Respiratory		Non Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
20	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.

Infectious Diseases were admitted to the Joint Hospital at Deepdale when necessary.

Smallpox Cases - there were non - would have been admitted to the Ainsworth Hospital at Bury.

Notifiable Disease	TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED										
	Total all ages	Age periods - Years									
		0 1	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	25	
Smallpox	Nil										
Scarlet Fever	8					2	6				
Diphtheria	Nil										
Measles	1						1				
Whooping Cough	Nil										
Acute Pneumonia	Nil										
Erysipelas	1									1	
Puerperal pyrexia	1								1		
Poliomyelitis	Nil										
Meningococcal Infection	1									1	
Food Poisoning	3	1					1			1	
Totals	15	1	-	-	-	2	8	-	1	3	-

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Production.

Under the Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949 inspection and supervision of milk production is now the responsibility of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. The Local Authority is responsible for the Cleanliness and safety of Milk Retailed in the district.

Meat and other Foods.

Meat is bought direct as there is no private slaughterhouse in the district.

Tinned meat, fruit and vegetables were inspected and in cases where necessary were voluntarily surrendered for condemnation. No Statutory action was necessary.

Ice Cream.

No samples of Ice Cream were taken for analysis under the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations. Visits were paid to these premises.

Water Supply.

The supply is obtained from the Liverpool Corporation Waterworks Undertaking from Withnell Reservoir (upland surface water).

930 dwelling houses and an estimated population of 2,760 persons are supplied with this water.

14 bacteriological examinations of water were made in the year of these all were satisfactory.

Due to the Ministry's policy on re grouping of water undertakings this Local Authority attended meetings at Preston and Blackburn with a view of becoming either part of the Preston Water Board or the Tyldesley Water Board. After discussions it became obvious that this Authority would be better placed geographically to become part of a Water Board containing the districts of Withnell Urban, Chorley Rural, Chorley Borough, Adlington Urban, Horwich Urban and Blackrod Urban. Meetings have been held between these Local Authorities and with a Ministry representative but there are many objections by some Authorities which have not yet been overcome.

In view of this regrouping etc. extensions and improvements to our existing works have been postponed.

A further 30 dwelling houses - estimated population 80 - obtain their water from private supplies. There were no reports of unsatisfactory private water supplies during 1958.

Drainage and Sewerage

There are two Sewerage Works with settlement tanks and sprinklers and one Works with settlement tanks and contact beds, the effluent being dealt with by land irrigation. The only areas without proper drainage systems are isolated farms and premises which are a considerable distance from any sewer.

Closet Accomodation at the end of 1958.

Privy Middens	None
Pail Closets	61
Dry Aspits	1
Moveable Ashbins	918
Waste Water Closets	30
Fresh Water Closets	891
Houses on Water	
Carriage system	885

During the year 17 pail closets were converted to Frech Water Closets.

Public Cleansing

The collection and disposal of house refuse was carried out weekly by the Council. The refuse was collected by motor lorry and disposed of by controlled tipping.

Sanitary Inspections.

The number of inspections for nuisances and for defects during the year was 74 and 29 found to be defective, 25 of these were abated and 29 informal notices were served. No statutory Notices were served, and there were no legal proceedings.

Prevention of Damage by Pests, Act 1949.

There is one Part Time Rodent operative employed by this authority.

Action relative to rodent control during year ended 31st December, 1958.

	<u>Types of Property</u>		
	<u>Non Agricultural</u>		<u>Agricultural.</u>
	<u>Dwelling Houses</u>	<u>All other</u>	
(a) Number of properties in district	956	55	43
(b) Number of properties inspected	49	7	38
(c) Total inspections carried out(incl. re-inspections)	71	15	68
(d) Number of properties inspected which were found to be infested by:-			
Rats - Major	-	-	-
Minor	15	7	4
Mice - Major	-	-	-
Minor	11	3	3
(e) Number of infested properties treated	26	10	7
(f) Total treatments carried out (incl.retr.)	29	11	9
(g) Number of Black control schemes carries out	NONE	NONE	NONE

SCHOOLS.

The total number of schools in the district at the end of 1958 were 5.

Sanitary Conditions of shcools at end of year:-

(a) Number of school with unsatisfactory yard surfaces	NONE		
(b) Sanitary accommodation Number of Schools with:	(i) Fresh Water Closets only 5.		
(ii) Waste Water Closets only	NIL	(iii) Trough closets only	NIL
(iv) Pail Closets only	NIL	(v) Privy closets only	NIL
(vi) Other types	NIL		
(c) Drainage - No, of Schools with drainage to:-			
(i) Public Sewer	5	(ii) Private Treatment Works	NIL
(d) Refuse disposal - No of schools with;			
(i) Dustbins	5	(ii) Dry Ashpits	NIL
(e) Water supply - No of schools with:			
(i) Public Mains	5	(ii) Private supply	NIL
No. of private supplies (e(ii) considered unsatisfactory			
NIL.			
(f) No. of schools where facilities are considered unsatisfactory for (i)washing	TWO		
(ii) Drinking	NIL		

School Meals

Adequate dining facilities are not available at all schools in this area. It is wrong for meals to be eaten in the space used for classwork although it is appreciated that village schools are small and do not lend themselves to structural alterations.

Washing facilities are inadequate in the schools, hot and cold water is not available in all and coupled with the school meal service should be brought to a better standard.

Housing and Housing Conditions.

Mainly due to high cost of repairs in relation to the market value of the property (mostly old) ... difficulty is being experienced in administering the relevant sections of the Housing and Public Health Acts. The provisions of the Rents Acts are making an improvement to many properties.

The main type of house in the area is the cottage type built in rows with either four or five habitable rooms. The main defects are defective walls, roofs, gutters, spouts and windows.

Overcrowding is mainly due to lodgers.

There are five inhabited back to back houses. There are no inhabited back to earth houses.

Factories and Workshops

General supervision was exercised over the sanitary conveniences and hygiene of the twenty one factories and five "other premises" registered with the Local Authorities. Thirty seven inspections were made, no smoke observations were made.

Swimming Baths. and Pool.

The Council owns the Public Baths. The plunge is 75 feet by 25 feet. Slipper Baths are also available. There are no privately owned baths. Daily tests are taken to ensure that the water is efficiently chlorinated. 2 Samples were taken for bacteriological analysis and found to be satisfactory. Separate W.C. accommodation has been provided by reconstructing two slipper bath cubicles and making them into conveniences. Heating of all water is carried out by an oil fired boiler which has proved to be more efficient and economical than coke fired.

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION.

Immunisation against Diptheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus.

Children under school age	-	10
Children of school age	-	-
Children re-inforced	-	-

Immunisation against Diptheria & Whooping Cough.

Children under school age	-	1
Children of school age	-	-
Children re-inforced	-	-

Immunisation against Diptheria only

Children under school age	-	1
Children of school age	-	1
Children re-inforced	-	45

Immunisation against Whooping Cough only.

Children under school age	-	-
Children of school age	-	-
Children re-inforced	-	-

Vaccination against Smallpox

Number of primary vaccinations	-	25
Number of re-vaccinations	-	11

Vaccination against Poliomyelitis

59 Children were vaccinated against Poliomyelitis.

MASS RADIOGRAPHY SURVEY. WITHNELL URBAN DISTRICT 3rd February - 8th February, 1958.

STATISTICS.

NUMBER EXAMINED:-

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Withnell Fold	145	116	261
Abbey Village	146	124	270
Brinscally	161	197	358
	<u>452</u>	<u>437</u>	<u>889</u>

TYPES OF EXAMINEES:-

Industry	343	187	530
General Public	94	240	334
Withnell Fold Hostel.	15	10	25
	<u>452</u>	<u>437</u>	<u>889</u>

ABNORMALITIES DISCOVERED:-

Pleural Effusion	1	-	1
Healed Tuberculosis	1	1	2
Abnormality of the Diaphragm	-	1	1
Cardio-Vascular Lesion Acquired	2	6	8

